

13. BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION

The position requires the FSN to operate as an investigator who will support DEA Special Agents assigned to the Foreign Advisory and Support Teams (FAST) that will be deployed to Afghanistan in March of 2005. The FAST is by far the most dangerous mission ever undertaken by the DEA. FAST members and the FSN will be located in a forward operating base outside of the US Embassy and will operate in a paramilitary fashion along side specially trained members of the Afghanistan National Interdiction Units (NIU). The FSN position will require the FSN to work along side members of the FAST and the NIU while conducting dangerous enforcement operations throughout Afghanistan. This position requires the FSN to deal with some of the most difficult, dangerous and complex issues facing counter narcotics operations in Afghanistan. Also, the mix between English speaking DEA Agents and the Afghan culture will require constant guidance from the FSN.

In addition, the DEA Country Attache (CA) relies on the FSN position to be the resident expert and advisor to DEA. Due to the frequent transition of DEA personnel in Afghanistan, and the frequent rotation (90 days) of the FAST teams, the CA must rely on this FSN position for institutional knowledge and memory.

As an employee of the DEA, the FSN has several major duties and responsibilities:

1. Investigator: The FSN will act as an investigator with the NIU in effort to identify, disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking organizations. This includes undercover operations, as many times, the presence of a DEA Agent would be detrimental to the investigation. The FSN is expected to prepare and submit written reports related to these investigative activities in compliance of DEA policy. Also, the FSN must be able to conduct the investigation and assume the role of the lead investigator and operate with minimal direct supervision in hostile areas.
2. The nature of the work performed by the DEA requires that surveillance be conducted on a number of operations in order to assure a successful prosecution. DEA Agents are experts at conducting surveillance, however; often the surveillance would be compromised if conducted by U.S. personnel. This position will require the FSN to physically conduct surveillance of persons and locations of suspected narcotic related activity in hostile areas. The FSN would be required to conduct surveillance on all undercover meeting and at times may be the only immediate protection the undercover officer will have available. During these undercover meetings, the FSN will be required to make observations, take photographs and video of the meetings with out being detected or compromised. Detection could not only lead to the investigation being compromised, it could place the FSN and undercover officer in jeopardy of serious bodily harm from ruthless drug traffickers.
3. The FSN would be required to write reports relative to the activities observed while conducting the surveillance. The FSN would also act as an advisor to Afghan Law Enforcement Personnel in assisting, directing and organizing surveillance operations and preparing written reports.
4. In addition to being a lead investigator the FSN will also act as an advisor: The FAST teams will be responsible for operating in all provinces in Afghanistan. Many of these are in remote areas in hostile environments. Since U.S. personnel are often unfamiliar with the terrain and cultural aspects of these remote areas, the FSN will be relied upon to assist and provide operational guidance to the FAST teams. The FSN will be required to act as an advisor to the FAST teams when planning missions and enforcement operations. The FSN will be required to go out on these dangerous missions with the FAST teams.
5. Another major duty and responsibility of the FSN position is the administrative requirements. The FSN is often required to perform a variety of administrative tasking that cannot be performed by DEA Agents due to their unfamiliarity with the customs of Afghanistan. In these situations, the FSN will act as the DEA representative.
6. The FSN will often serve as the advisor to the Country Attache, FAST Team Group Supervisors and Special Agents on matters peculiar to Afghanistan. The FSN will often act as an interpreter for the DEA during meetings with Afghanistan Government Officials and the law enforcement community. Many times, due to language complications, the FSN will be the sole source of contact between the Afghan Officials and the DEA. The FSN will be required to travel frequently throughout Afghanistan with the DEA on operations. The FSN will often be the only individual familiar with the terrain and local customs and languages of the area.
7. The FSN will also serve as an instructor and advisor to the NIU and other Afghan law enforcement agencies by provide training in the drug enforcement field. The FSN will work with host county law enforcement agencies, the NIU and DEA in formulating training needs. Once these needs are identified, the FSN will assist the DEA in implementing a plan to successfully fulfilling the training needs.
8. In addition to the above, the FSN will be subjected to hazardous duties to include: Flight operations, Clandestine Laboratories, Chemical stockpiles, night driving on unimproved and mountainous roads and working around firearms.